

35/02

11/035/002

Kennecott president to retire

2/92

Bob E. Cooper, president and chief executive officer of Kennecott Corp., is retiring in mid-March.

Kennecott spokeswoman Alexis Fernandez said Cooper's departure was a personal decision and he hasn't decided what he will do next.

Cooper started working for the company in 1965 at the Ray Mines Division in Arizona. He left in 1977 to take another job in the mining industry but returned ten years later and was appointed president and CEO in June of 1993.

Kennecott's parent company,

the London-based RTZ-CRA, announced that Jonathan C. A. Leslie will be in charge of Kennecott operations until new management is appointed.

Leslie has been responsible for a gold mining project in Papua New Guinea and oversees the mining conglomerate's business in India.

For the past four years, Cooper has supervised RTZ-CRA's \$2 billion investment in the company's North American operations, including Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation, Kennecott Minerals Company and Kennecott Energy Company.